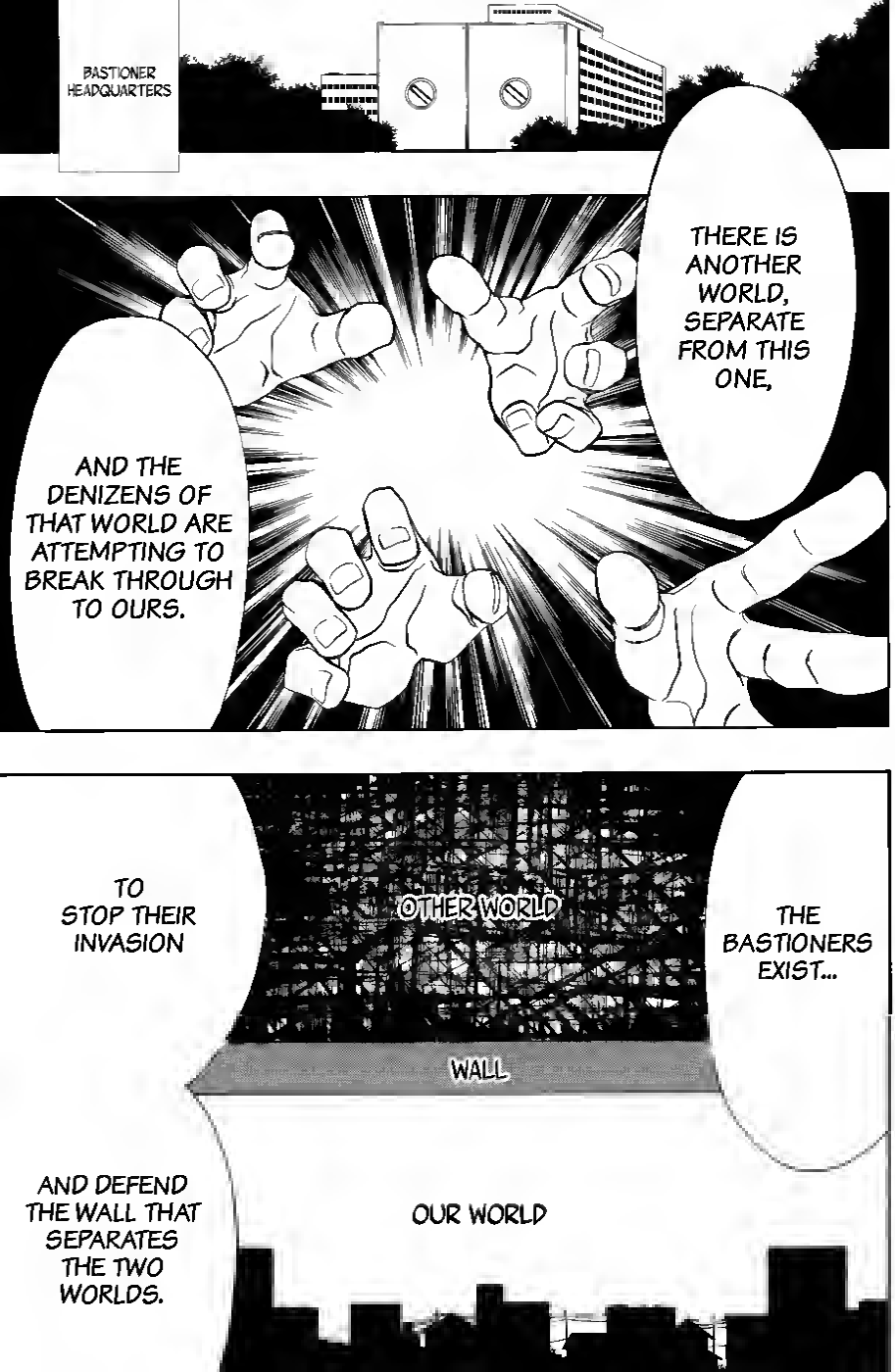
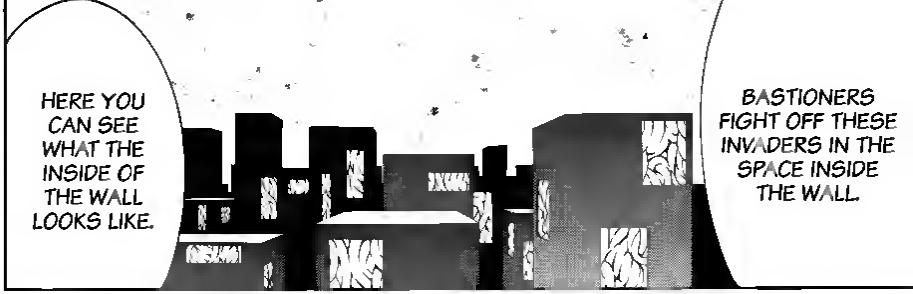
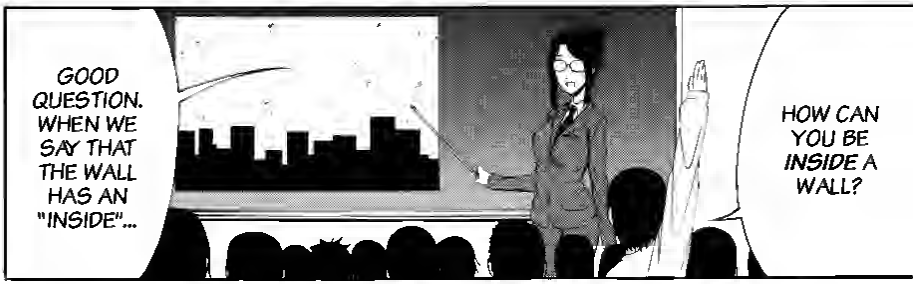
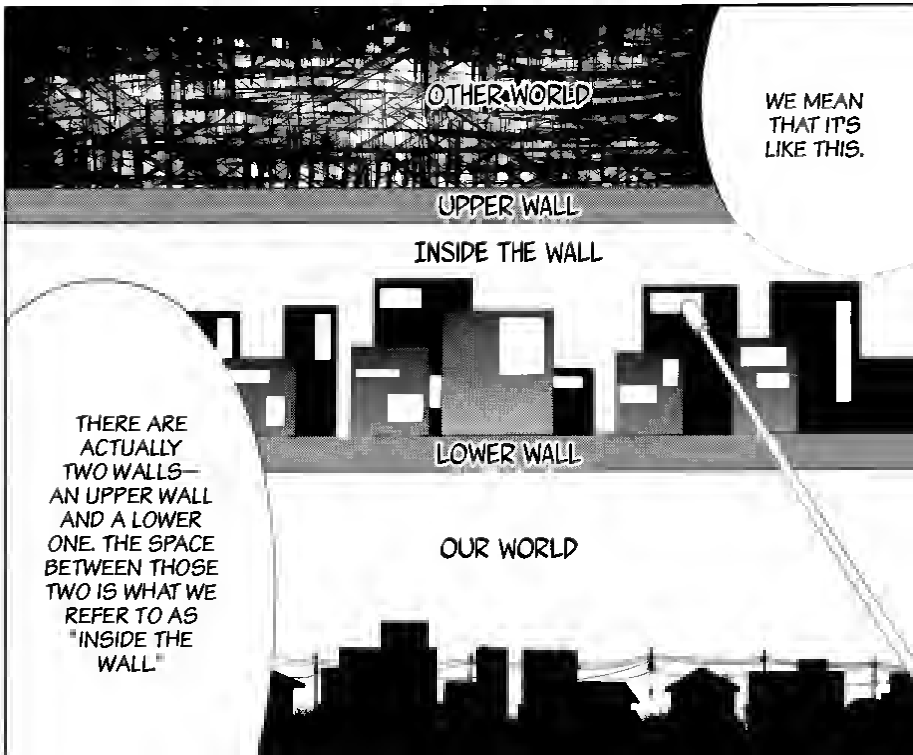
THAT GIRL'S CRAZY!! RUN FOR IT!!
AAHH! IT'S ARATSUGU!!
HEY! GIVE BACK YOKO'S SHOE!!
HERE, YOKO.
THANKS... YORINO...
遠い日の想い出…

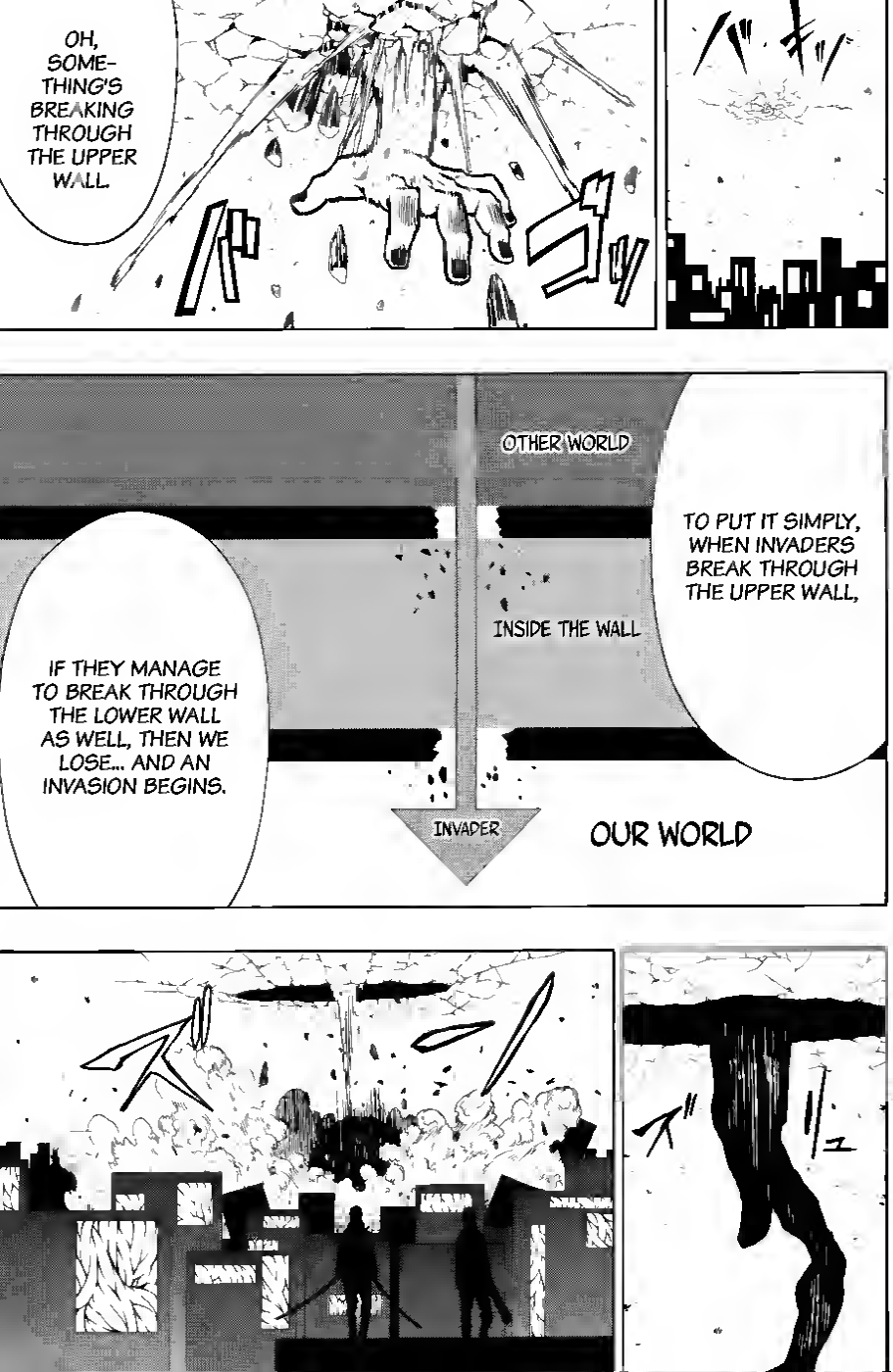
鮮烈!!
バトルアクション読切!!
荻野純
Ogino Jun
私たちの絆、力に変えて…
互いのガーディアン
Tagai no Guardian

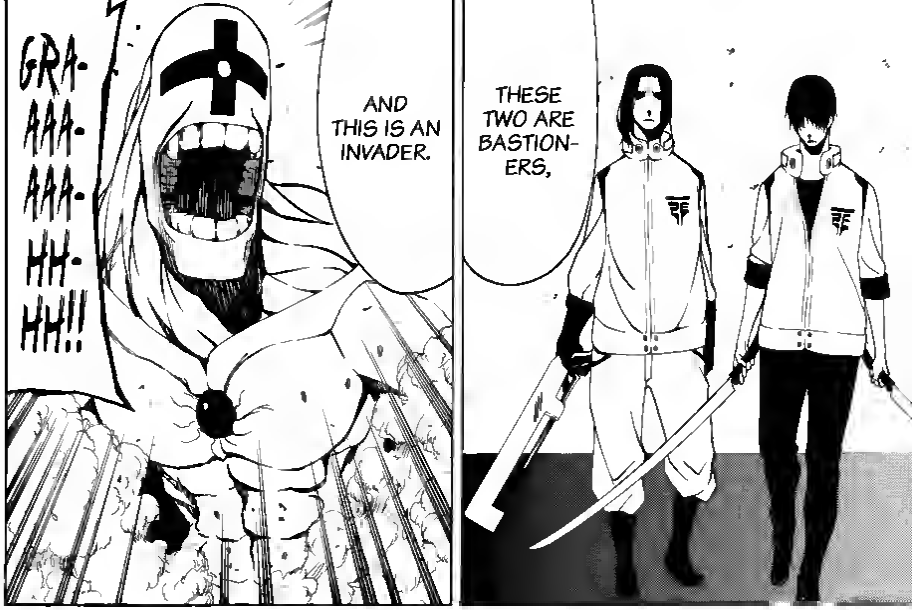

BASTIONER HEADQUARTERS
THERE IS ANOTHER WORLD, SEPARATE FROM THIS ONE,
AND THE DENIZENS OF THAT WORLD ARE ATTEMPTING TO BREAK THROUGH TO OURS.
TO STOP THEIR INVASION
OTHER WORLD
THE BASTIONERS EXIST...
WALL
AND DEFEND THE WALL THAT SEPARATES THE TWO WORLDS.
OUR WORLD

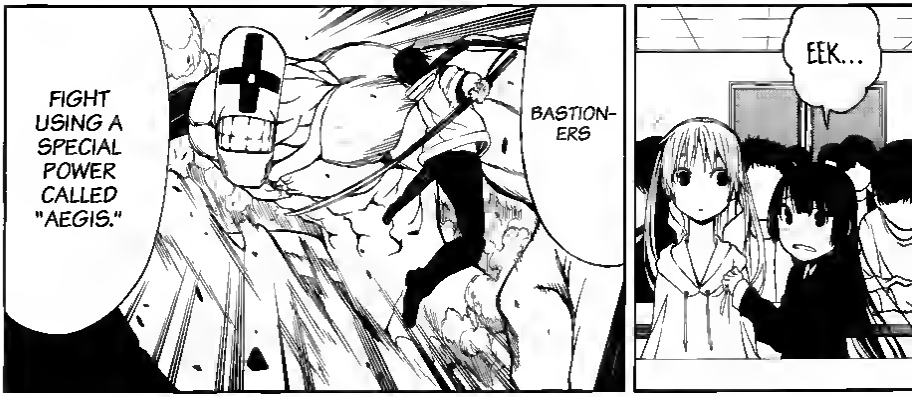

HERE YOU CAN SEE WHAT THE INSIDE OF THE WALL LOOKS LIKE.
BASTIONERS FIGHT OFF THESE INVADERS IN THE SPACE INSIDE THE WALL.

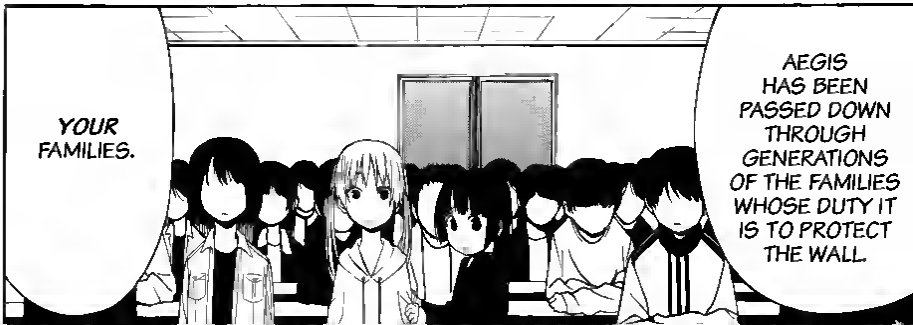

GOOD QUESTION. WHEN WE SAY THAT THE WALL HAS AN "INSIDE"...
HOW CAN YOU BE *INSIDE* A WALL?


OTHER WORLD
UPPER WALL
INSIDE THE WALL
LOWER WALL
OUR WORLD
WE MEAN THAT IT'S LIKE THIS.
THERE ARE ACTUALLY TWO WALLS— AN UPPER WALL AND A LOWER ONE. THE SPACE BETWEEN THOSE TWO IS WHAT WE REFER TO AS "INSIDE THE WALL"


OH, SOMETHING'S BREAKING THROUGH THE UPPER WALL.
OTHER WORLD
INSIDE THE WALL
TO PUT IT SIMPLY, WHEN INVADERS BREAK THROUGH THE UPPER WALL,
IF THEY MANAGE TO BREAK THROUGH THE LOWER WALL AS WELL, THEN WE LOSE... AND AN INVASION BEGINS.
INVADER
OUR WORLD


GRA-AAA-AAA-HH-HH!!
AND THIS IS AN INVADER.
THESE TWO ARE BASTION-ERS,

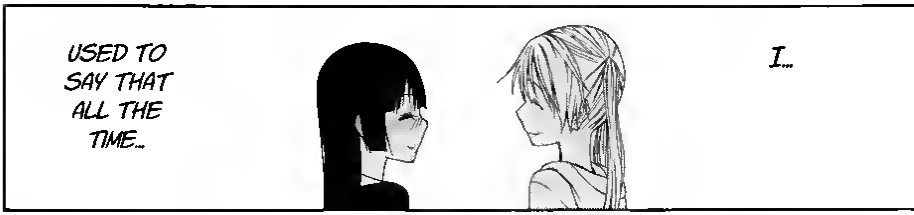

FIGHT USING A SPECIAL POWER CALLED "AEGIS."
BASTION-ERS
EEK...

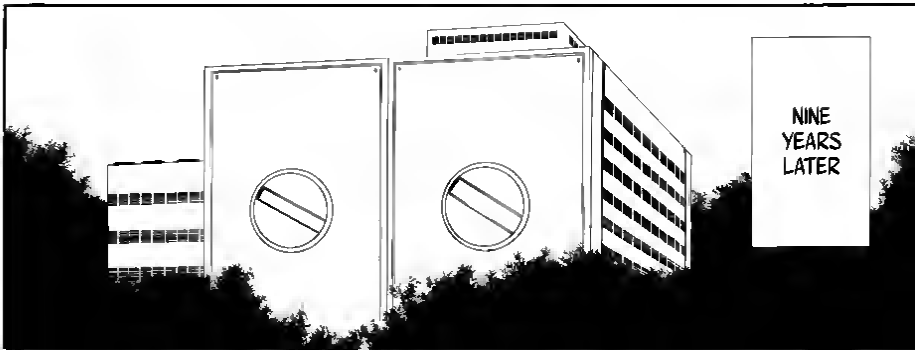

YOUR FAMILIES.
AEGIS HAS BEEN PASSED DOWN THROUGH GENERATIONS OF THE FAMILIES WHOSE DUTY IT IS TO PROTECT THE WALL.

COOOOL!
FROM NOW ON, ONCE ALL OF YOU ARE FINISHED WITH SCHOOL,
YOU WILL BEGIN STUDYING TO BECOME BASTIONERS.
I'M GONNA BE
THE STRONGEST BASTIONER EVER!
I'M SCAAARED.
YOU'LL BE FINE.

I'LL PROTECT YOU, YOKO!

...YORINO...


USED TO SAY THAT ALL THE TIME...
I...

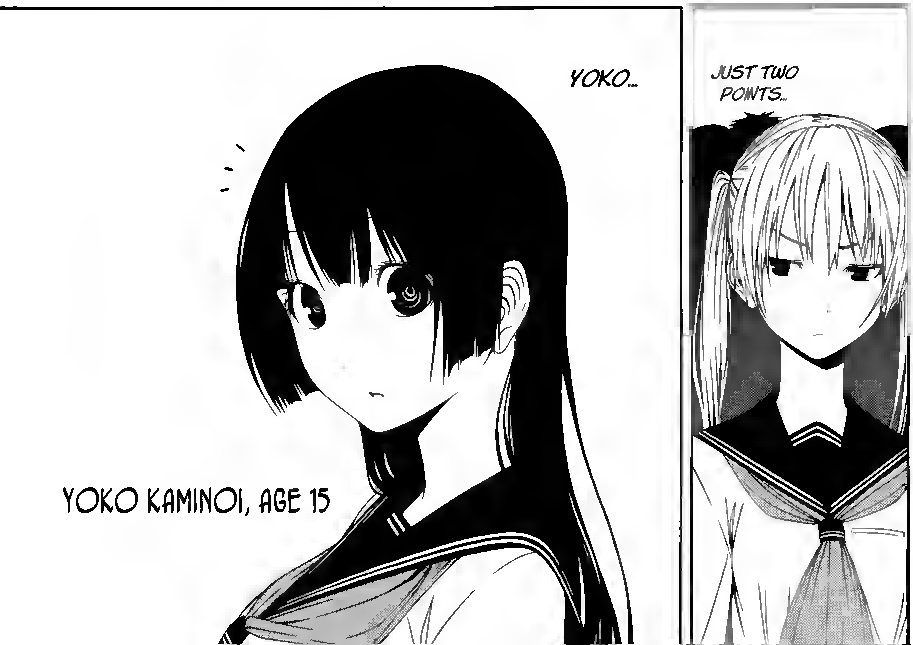

NINE YEARS LATER

THE BATTLE TRAINING TEST WILL NOW BEGIN.
YORINO ARATSUGU, AGE 15
SUPPLYING AEGIS...
THE THREE CADETS WILL ENGAGE IN A MOCK BATTLE WITH A TRAINED BASTIONER.
POINTS WILL BE DISTRIBUTED ACCORDING TO THE FIGHTING SKILLS DISPLAYED.
IF YOU'RE SCARED, JUST STAY PUT AND KEEP QUIET.
SCARY...
WE'RE UP AGAINST A PRO...
HUH?
NICE TO MEETCHA, NEW KIDS.

WH..WHAT!?
ARATSUGU...!?
I'LL DO THIS MYSELF.
GOING SOLO?
FINE BY ME, BUT I'M A PRO...
WHOA, SERIOUSLY?
ARATSUGU'S SOMETHING ELSE...

NO POINTS AT ALL...
WE COULDN'T DO A THING...
SHE TOOK DOWN A PRO ALL BY HERSELF...
!
I HEARD YOKO KAMINOI BEAT A PRO TOO.

COMBAT TRAINING RESULTS
1 YORINO ARATSUGU 351
2 YOKO KAMINOI 349
3 HARUKA FUJI 103
4 HITOMI SAKAZAKI 99
5 YUTA MIYAMURA 98
BUT SHE'S ONLY TWO POINTS AHEAD OF YOKO KAMINOI.
KNEW IT, YORINO ARATSUGU GOT TOP MARKS IN COMBAT...


YOKO...
JUST TWO POINTS..
YOKO KAMINOI, AGE 15

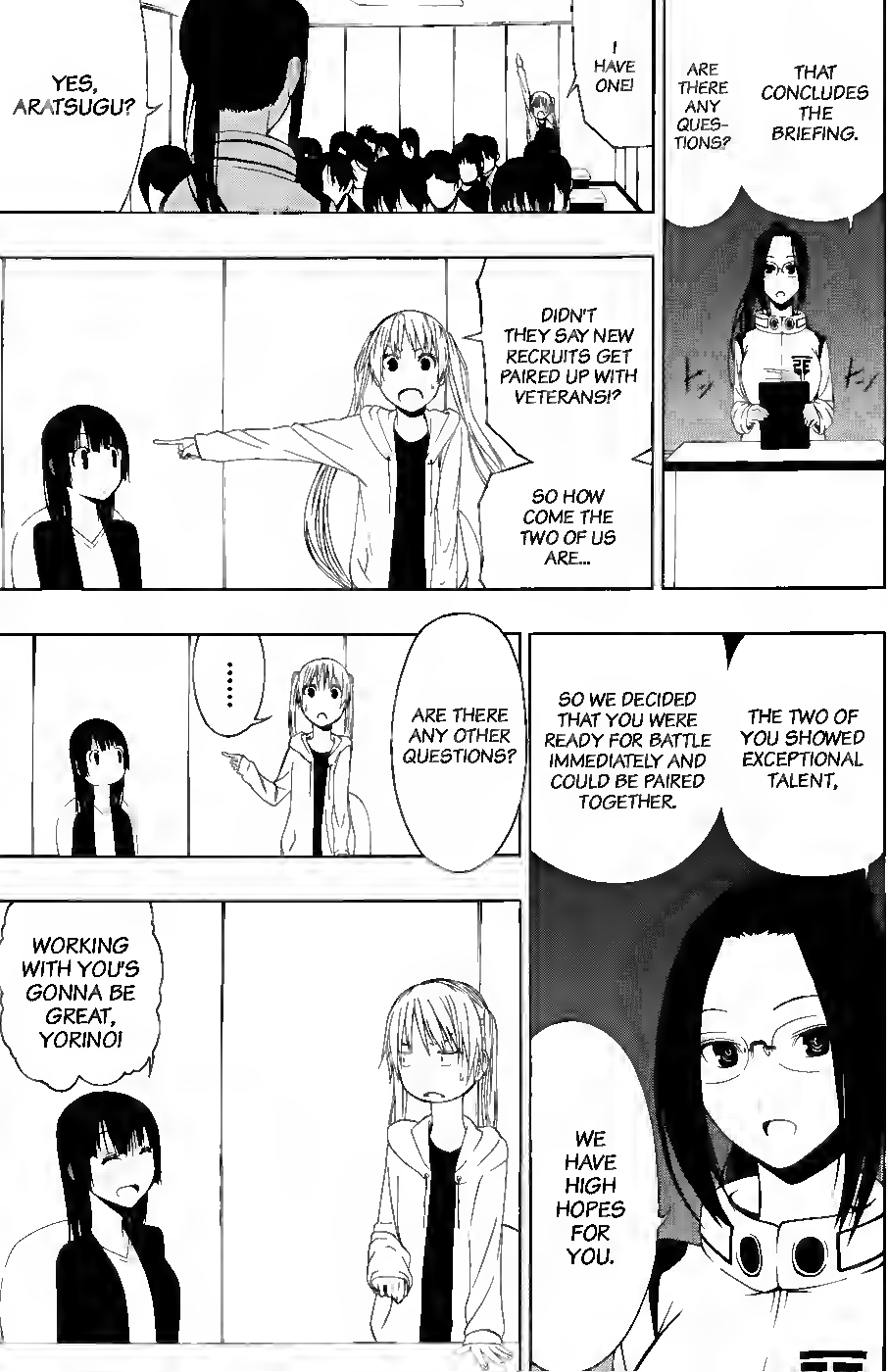
NO, I REALLY MEAN IT! YOU'RE AMAZING!
QUIT MAKING FUN OF ME! THAT'S JUST IN COMBAT TRAINING AND YOU KNOW IT!
I JUST CAN'T BEAT YOU, YORINO.
HOW MANY TIMES IN A ROW IS THIS?
OVERALL RESULTS
1 YOKO KAMINO! 1243
2 YORINO ARATSUGU 1229
3 TAKUMI TANAKA 915
4 HITOMI SAKAZAKI 898
AND YOKO KAMINOI GOT FIRST OVERALL.
SHE WASN'T ANYTHING LIKE THIS WHEN WE WERE KIDS!
SHE GOT TALLER THAN ME AT SOME POINT,
AND EVEN HER CHEST IS BIGGER!
RRRGHH! SHE'S BETTER THAN ME IN LITERALLY EVERYTHING ELSE!

SHE'S BEEN TOP OF THE CLASS EVER SINCE FOURTH GRADE.
AND I'M ALWAYS SECOND... WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE FRIENDS, BUT I'M JUST IN HER SHADOW ALL THE TIME.
SHE'S ALWAYS SMILING AT ME...
WE'RE ALMOST DONE WITH MIDDLE SCHOOL... AND THEN WE CAN TAKE THE EXAM TO BECOME PROS!
ONCE WE'RE PROS, I'LL PROVE I'M BETTER

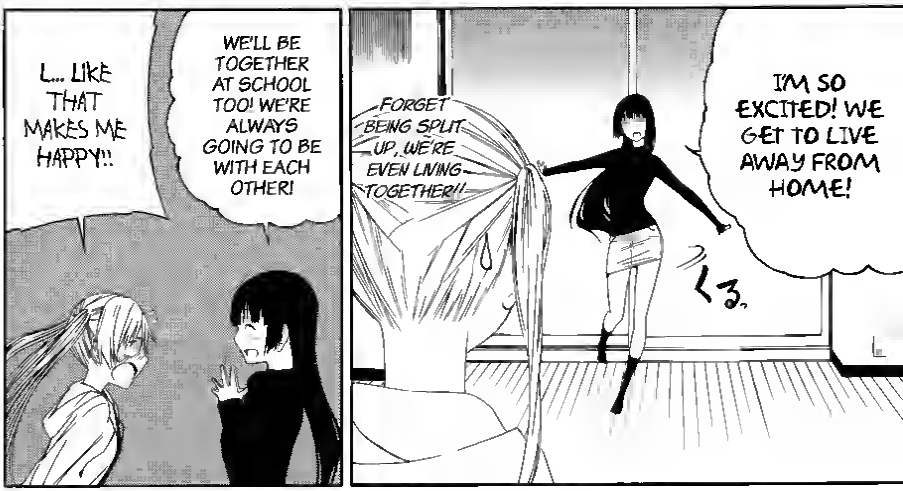
PROFESSIONAL EXAM RESULTS
THOSE WITH THE TEN HIGHEST SCORES HAVE PASSED.
SECOND AGAIN...
2 YORINO ARATSUGU
1 YOKO KIMINO
2 YORINO ARATSUGU
DING DONG DING DONG
THAT'S GREAT! WE BOTH PASSED!
GRRRRR!!

YOU AND YOUR PARTNER WILL BE ASSIGNED A DISTRICT...
NEW RECRUITS ARE FIRST PAIRED WITH VETERAN FIGHTERS.
ALL PROFESSIONALS WORK IN TEAMS OF TWO.
AN ASSIGNED DISTRICT...
WELL, THAT'S A GOOD THING!
HMPH.
WE'VE BEEN TOGETHER AS LONG AS I CAN REMEMBER... THIS'LL BE MY FIRST TIME NOT BEING WITH YOKO...
NEW RECRUITS DON'T GET PUT TOGETHER...

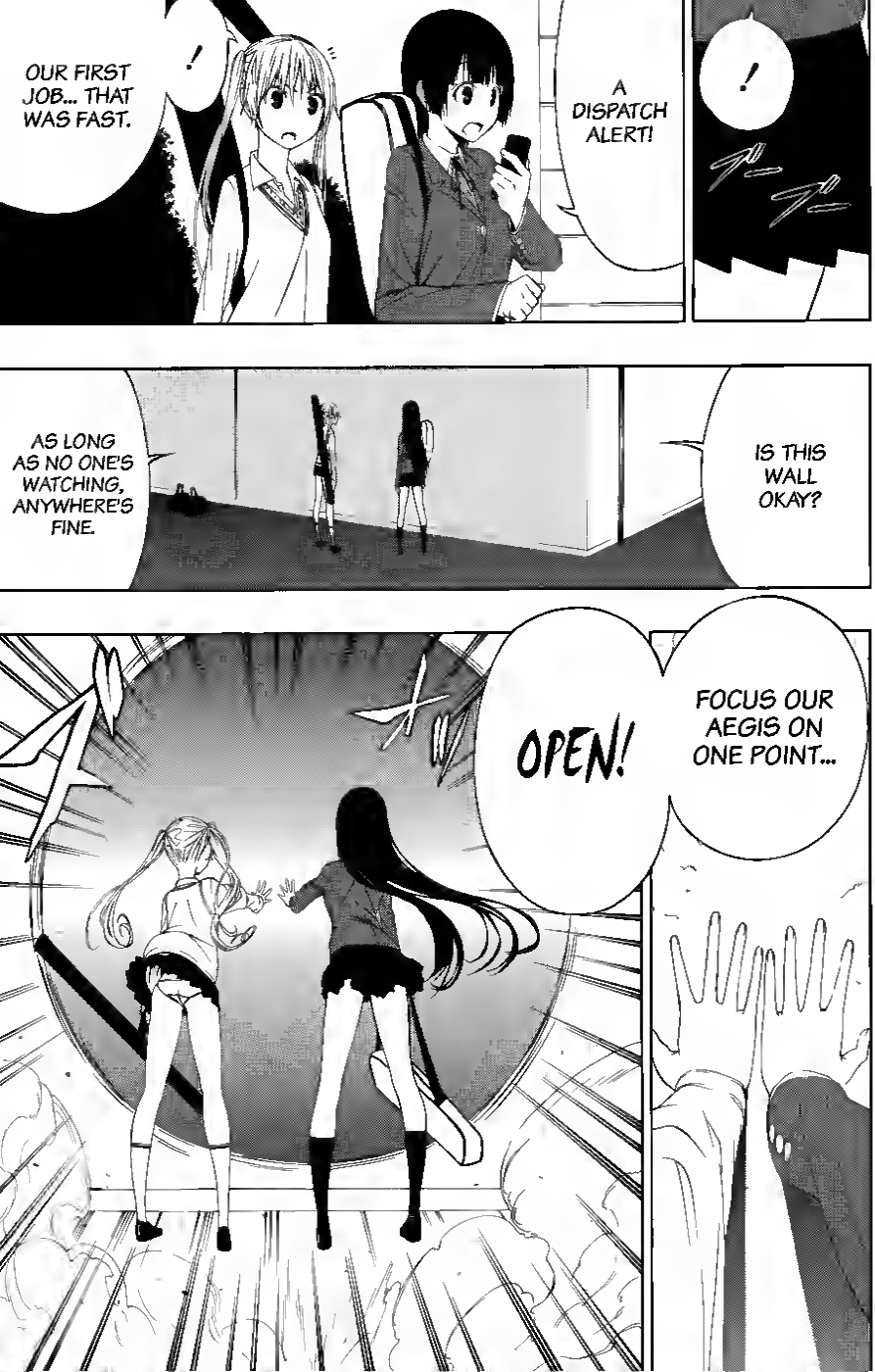
SO WHOEVER SITS NEXT TO ME IS MY PARTNER...
HERE?
UM... FIVE... FIVE...
Briefing for New Recruits
I... GOT NUMBER FIVE. THAT'S HERE, RIGHT?
HUH? YORINO?
!
BEATS ME.
WHY ARE YOU...?

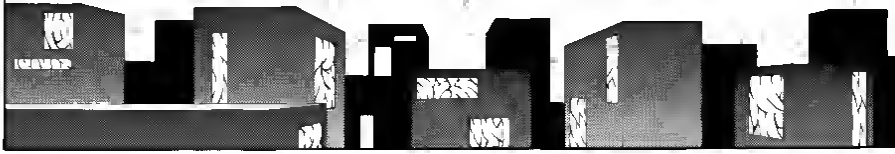

THAT CONCLUDES THE BRIEFING.
ARE THERE ANY QUES-TIONS?
I HAVE ONE!
YES, ARATSUGU?
DIDN'T THEY SAY NEW RECRUITS GET PAIRED UP WITH VETERANS!?
SO HOW COME THE TWO OF US ARE...
THE TWO OF YOU SHOWED EXCEPTIONAL TALENT,
SO WE DECIDED THAT YOU WERE READY FOR BATTLE IMMEDIATELY AND COULD BE PAIRED TOGETHER.
WE HAVE HIGH HOPES FOR YOU.
ARE THERE ANY OTHER QUESTIONS?
.....
WORKING WITH YOU'S GONNA BE GREAT, YORINO!

WE DIDN'T GET SPLIT UP AFTER ALL...
YOKO'S MY PARTNER!

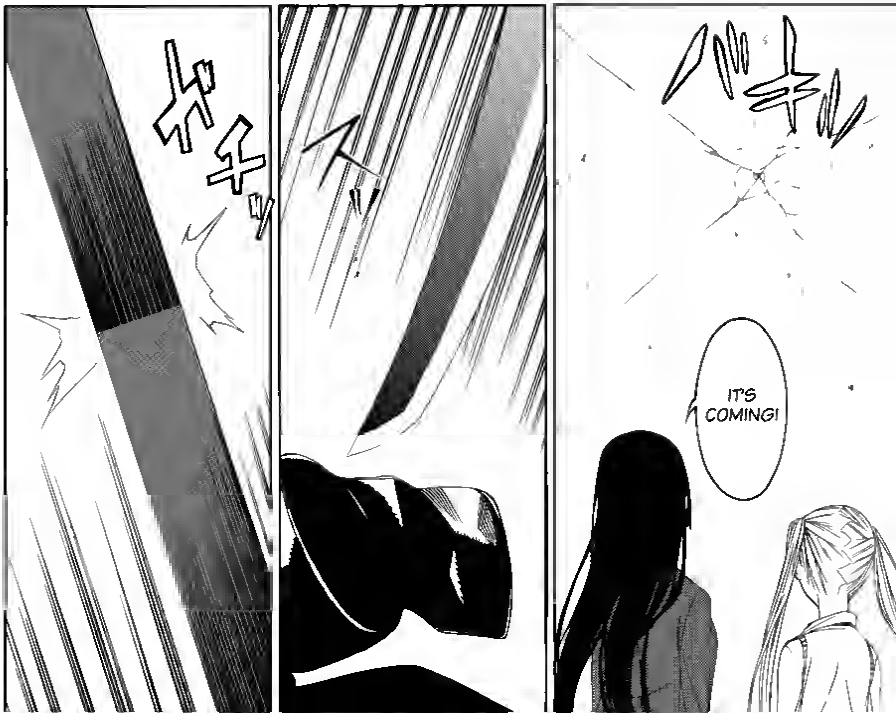

I... LIKE THAT MAKES ME HAPPY!!
WE'LL BE TOGETHER AT SCHOOL TOO! WE'RE ALWAYS GOING TO BE WITH EACH OTHER!
FORGET BEING SPLIT UP, WE'RE EVEN LIVING TOGETHER!!
I'M SO EXCITED! WE GET TO LIVE AWAY FROM HOME!

HEH HEH.
WHY DO YOU HAVE TO BE WITH ME ALL THE TIME, ANYWAY!?


OUR FIRST JOB... THAT WAS FAST.
!
A DISPATCH ALERT!
!
AS LONG AS NO ONE'S WATCHING, ANYWHERE'S FINE.
IS THIS WALL OKAY?
OPEN!
FOCUS OUR AEGIS ON ONE POINT...



I HAVEN'T BEEN INSIDE THE WALL IN A WHILE.
YEAH, NOT SINCE OUR WALL RESTORATION TRAINING...


IT'S COMING!

SUPPLYING AEGIS.
THE POWER OF AEGIS THAT THE BASTIONER FAMILY LINES POSSESS
IS THE ABILITY TO TAKE ENERGY PRODUCED BY THE HEART AND SUPPLY IT TO OTHER OBJECTS.
WHILE ITS MAIN USE
IS TO RESTORE THE WALL AFTER IT HAS BEEN DAMAGED,
IT CAN ALSO BE USED ON WEAPONS AND THE LIKE
TO INCREASE THEIR STRENGTH.
BUT THE FACT THAT IT IS A POWER TO BE GIVEN TO OTHERS
MEANS THAT ONE CANNOT USE IT TO STRENGTHEN THEIR OWN BODY.

AND SUPPLY AEGIS TO EACH OTHER'S HEARTS IN ORDER TO STRENGTHEN THEIR BODIES.
THUS, BASTIONERS ARE REQUIRED TO FIGHT IN PAIRS
YOKO'S GOING TO BE TOUCHING MY CHEST...
Y... YEAH...
READY, YORINO?
SO BIG...
AND... I'M GOING TO BE TOUCHING HERS...

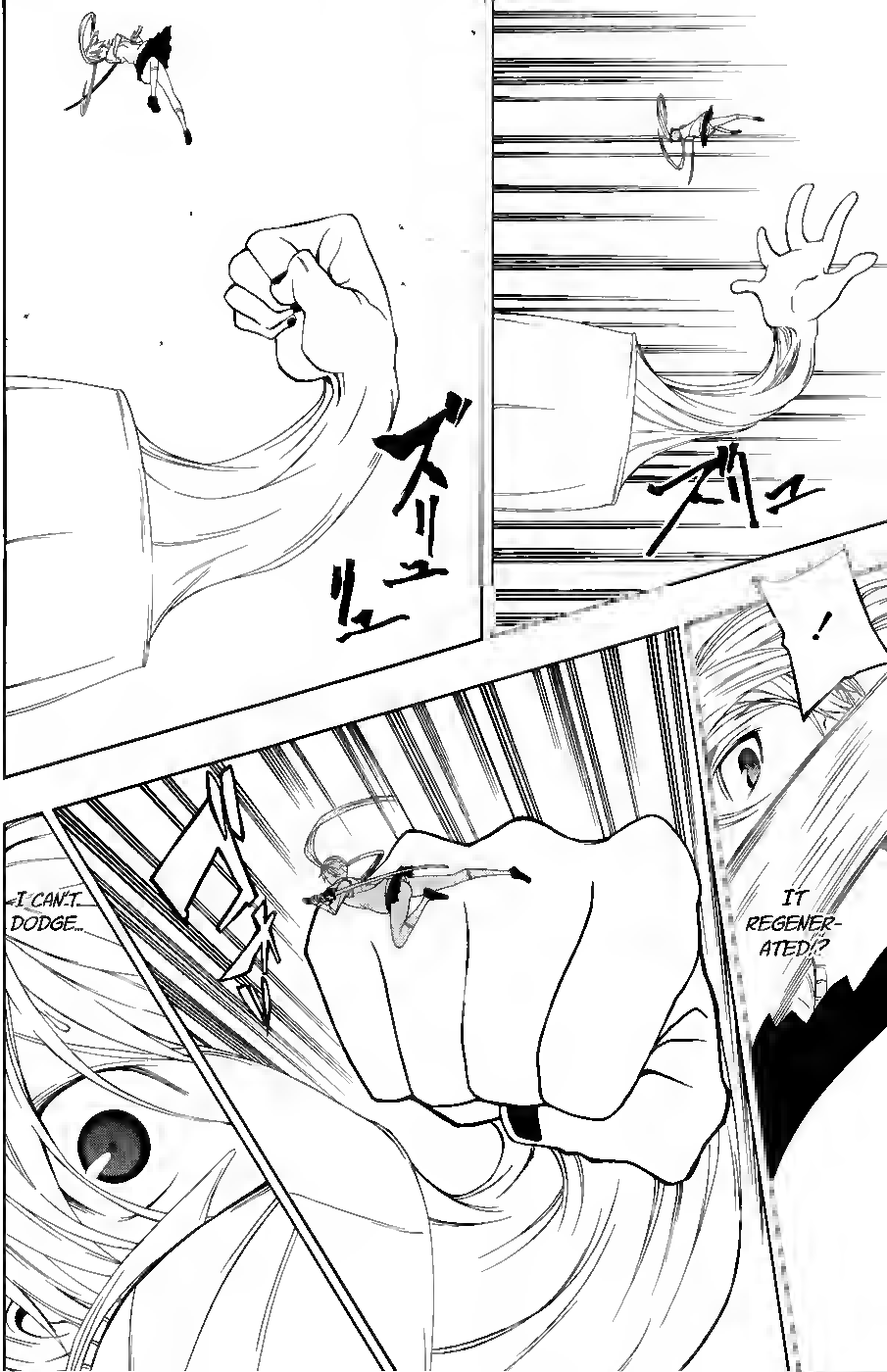
MNN...♥

キィン
キィン
YOU DON'T NEED TO TELL ME!
LET'S GO, YORINO!
ズ…ッ…
ズ…ッ…

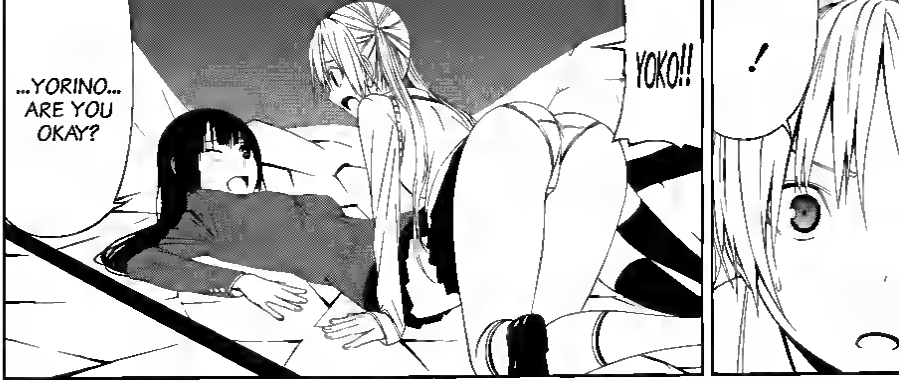
GUOO-
OOAA-
ARRR-
RR!!
ゴオオ…

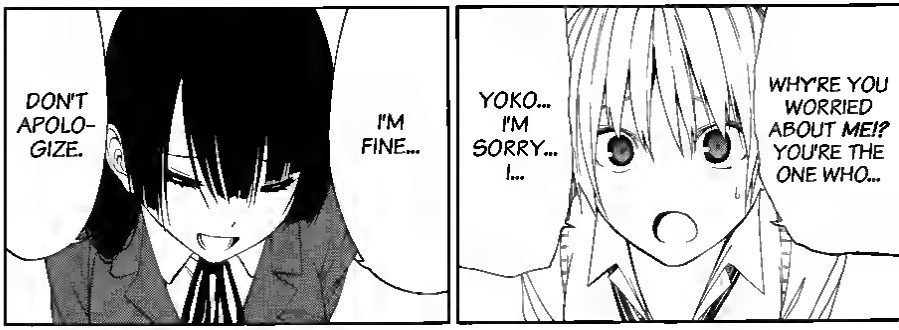
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN BETTER IN COMBAT TRAINING!
IF I CAN BEAT THIS ONE BY MYSELF, I CAN PROVE TO YOKO HOW GOOD I AM!
YORINO!?
HAAHH!!

YES! GOT IT!
NOW I JUST HAVE TO GET ITS HEAD!!

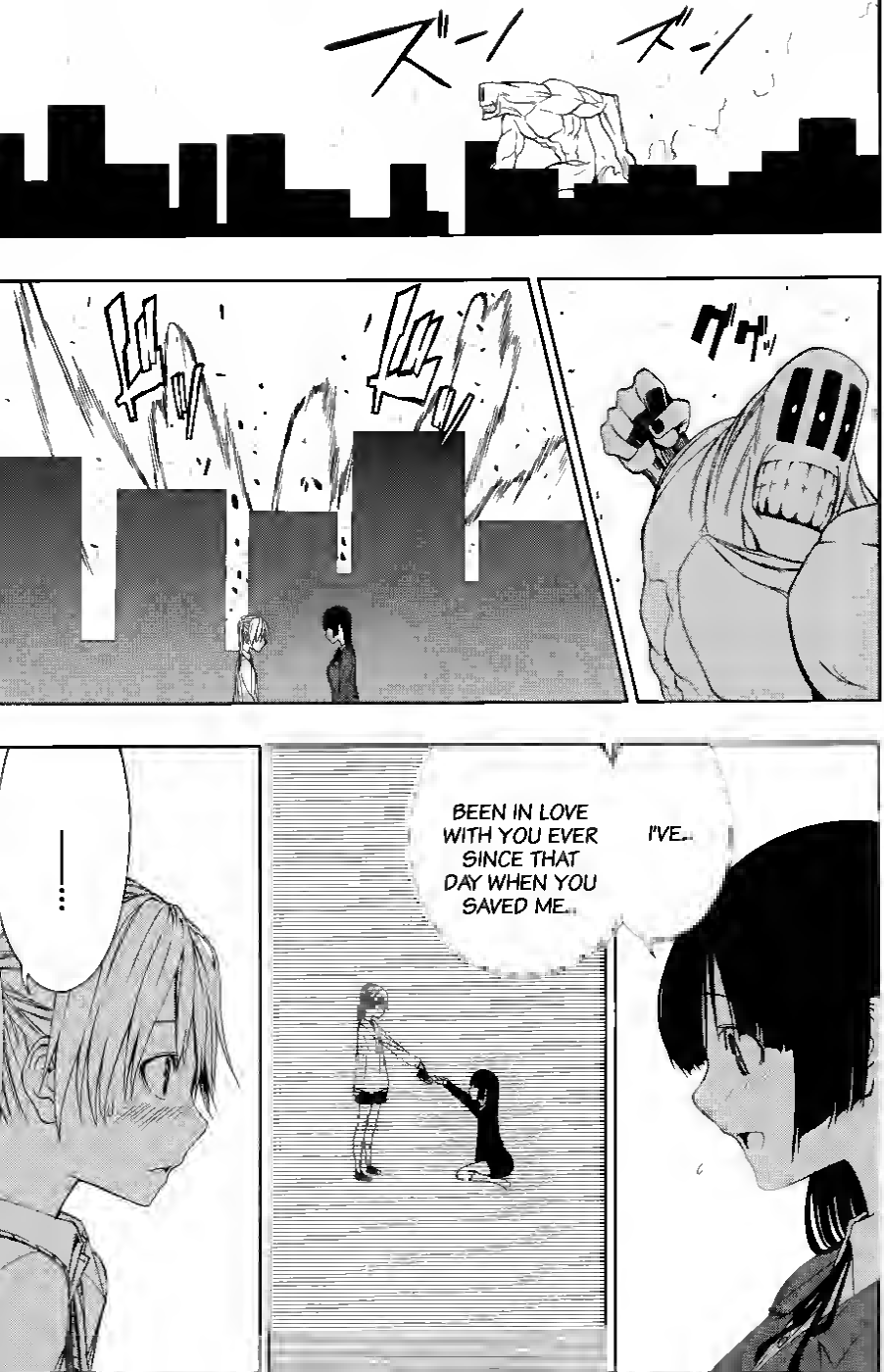

ズリュ
ズリュ
!
IT REGENER-ATED!?
I CAN'T DODGE...

YOKO!!
MNN...


...YORINO... ARE YOU OKAY?
YOKO!!
!


DON'T APOLO-GIZE.
I'M FINE...
YOKO... I'M SORRY... I...
WHY'RE YOU WORRIED ABOUT ME!? YOU'RE THE ONE WHO...

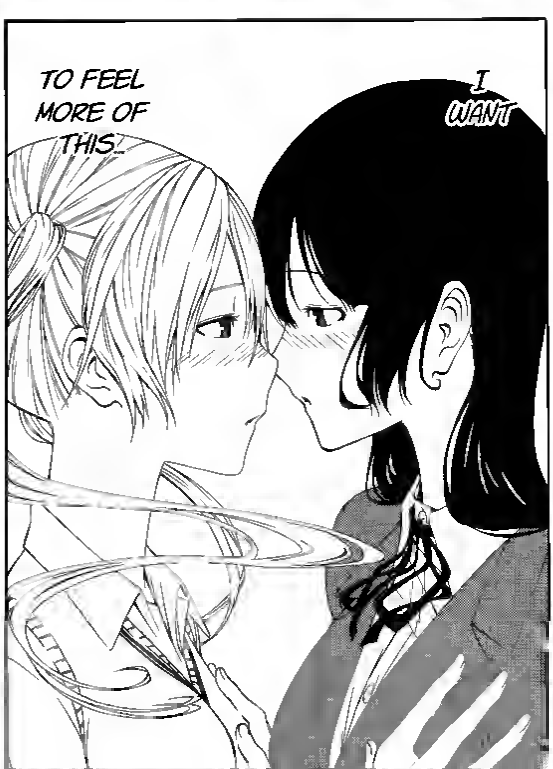
HUH? PROTECT ME?
I'M JUST SO HAPPY... I FINALLY GOT TO PROTECT YOU.


ズーン ズーン
ドドド
I'VE..
BEEN IN LOVE WITH YOU EVER SINCE THAT DAY WHEN YOU SAVED ME..
!!!

I'VE BEEN TRYING TO BE PERFECT EVER SINCE THEN
SO I COULD BE GOOD ENOUGH TO BE BY YOUR SIDE.
BEING ABLE TO PROTECT YOU IS ALL I'VE EVER WANTED.
SO YOU DON'T NEED TO FIGHT ALONE.
.....
YOU BEING NEXT TO ME...
IS WHY I'M ALWAYS SO WORRIED...
.....

I'M WORRIED THAT YOU'LL END UP BEING STRONGER THAN ME!
I'VE BEEN TRAINING SO HARD JUST SO I CAN KEEP UP MY IMAGE!
YORINO...
I'LL... GIVE YOU SOME MORE... OF MINE TOO...
IT'S GOING TO BREAK THROUGH THE LOWER WALL IF WE DON'T HURRY.
HEY... YOU SHOULD TAKE MORE OF MY POWER.

I LOVE YOU... I'VE ALWAYS LOVED YOU...
M... ME... TOO...

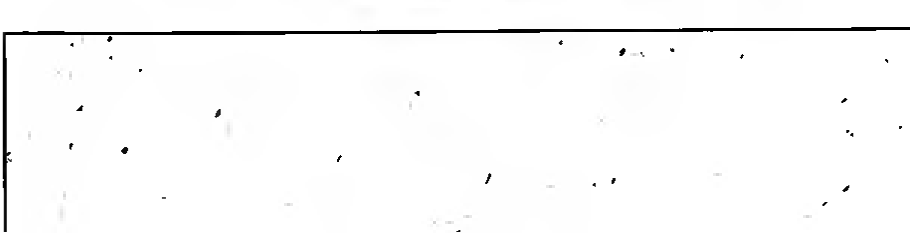

I WANT TO FEEL MORE OF THIS...

WOW...

I FEEL SO MUCH MORE POWER INSIDE ME THAN I DID BEFORE.

AND MORE...
MORE...
GRAA-AAHH-HHH-HH!!
ゴォッ
ゴォッ

HAAAAHHH!!



I TOLD YOU, I'LL BE FINE BY TOMORROW.
YOU SURE YOU'RE OKAY?
YORINO...
I'M NOT GONNA LET YOU GET HURT JUST BECAUSE YOU'RE COVERING ME.
VRRRR VRRRR
OH.
IT JUST MAKES ME LOOK BAD...!
I... I DIDN'T MEAN IT LIKE THAT!
SO I'M REALLY THAT IMPORTANT TO YOU?
I'M SO HAPPY! ♥

DON'T GO OFF ON YOUR OWN THIS TIME, OKAY? ♥
WE'VE ALREADY GOT A SECOND DISPATCH!
FINE, I'LL WATCH YOUR BACK THIS TIME.
WE'LL ALWAYS PROTECT EACH OTHER.
fin.